

10/549612

JCO5 Rec'd EPTO 20 SEP 2005

**WRITTEN OFFICE ACTION
OF THE INTERNATIONAL
SEARCH AUTHORITY (SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET)**

International Application Number

PCT/EP04/02758

Re Item V

**Reasoned statement with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability;
citations and explanations supporting such statement**

Reference is made to the following citation:

D1: DE19908286

Document D1, which is considered to be the nearest prior art relative to the subject matter of claim 1, discloses a valve drive of an internal combustion engine having a cylinder head that differs from the subject matter of claim 1 in that

- in the first axial position of the cam carrier, a first contact surface rigidly mounted on a cam carrier is in contact with a first contact surface rigidly mounted on a cylinder head,
- in the second axial position of the cam carrier, a second contact surface rigidly mounted on a cam carrier is in contact with a second contact surface rigidly mounted on a cylinder head, and
- means for application of an axial tensioning force are configured between camshaft and cam carrier, the axial tensioning force displacing the cam carrier in the area of the first axial position in the direction of the first axial position, and in the area of the second axial position in the direction of the second axial position.

Hence the subject matter of claim 1 is novel (PCT Article 33 (2)).

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The problem to be solved by this invention may therefore be considered to be the creation of a valve drive in which the cam carriers are reliably held in their position after displacement, irrespective of thermal effects.

This object is attained by means of the distinguishing features specified in the foregoing. This solution is neither known nor obvious from the citations referred to in the International Search Report. Hence the solution proposed in claim 1 of the present application constitutes an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)).

Claims 2 - 9 are dependent on claim 1 and accordingly also meet the PCT requirements with regard to novelty and inventive step.